(v) The distribution of the beneficiaries in rural and urban areas is 49.9% and 50.1% respectively.

(vi) Assets have been created in 89.7% of the cases disbursed.

(vii) About 36.4% of the beneficiaries were repaying the loan instalment on time.

(viii) Wilful default has been found in 16% of the default cases.

Condition of rural industries in U.P.

†3559. SHRI MUNAVVAR HASAN: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that condition of conventional rural and cottage industries has deteriorated considerably and these are on the verge of closure in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the steps taken by Government to improve condition of the said industries; and

(d) to what extent Government have succeeded in improving condition of the said industries?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) to (c) The Khadi and Village Industries sector consists essentially of conventional (traditional) rural cottage industries. Government have been taking steps from time to time for the promotion and development of rural and cottage industries with positive results. Assistance provided to this sector consists of margin money assistance under Rural Employment Generation Programme (REGP), training, technological and marketing support. As a result, village industries have been registering growth in employment.

In order to further strengthen this sector in the country, 'Khadi Package' was announced by the Government on 14.5.2001. The package mainly consists of creation of packaging and design facilities, measures to promote marketing, brand building, cluster development, focus on core areas and provision of additional working capital etc.

(d) The improvement in the status of rural cottage industries during the past two years in the Uttar Pradesh is given below:—

†Originai notice of the question was received in Hindi.

	2000-01	2001-02	%Growth
Employment (persons in lakhs)	8.22	8.68	5.60

In view of the above, it may be seen that conventional rural and cottage industries in Uttar Pradesh are not deteriorating and are not on the verge of closure.

Funds to Himachal Pradesh under PMRY

3560. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated to Himachal Pradesh under the Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana for 1999-2000 onwards, year-wise; and

(b) the amount utilised and remained unutilized out of the above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF AGRO AND RURAL INDUSTRIES (SHRI SANGH PRIYA GAUTAM): (a) and (b) Under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana (PMRY), the Central Government releases funds for Subsidy as well as for Training and Entreprenurial Development, Contingency etc. The funds for subsidy are authorized to the Reserve Bank of India for passing on to the individual beneficiaries through the implementing banks and are not released directly to the States/UTs.The funds for Training and Entrepreneurial Development, Contingency etc. are released to the States/UTs. The Statement showing year-wise details from 1999-2000 to 2002-2003 of funds released and utilised by Himachal Pradesh under the PMRY is enclosed.

Statement

Details of Funds Released And Utilised By Himachal Pradesh Under The Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana From 1999-2000 To 2002-2003.

(Amount Rs. in thousands)

Year	Funds released	Funds utilised
1999-2000	1030.300	1214.373*
2000-2001	268.000	871.458*
2001-2002	712.740	1674.861*
2002-2003	1695.700	Utilisation is awaited

*The State has balance surplus funds of Rs. 2146.282 thousand from the funds released upto the programme year 1998-99.